Outreach Training Program

Each year, OSHA’s Outreach Training Program provides thousands of employees training in basic occupational safety and health practices they can use at their work sites.

General Facts
- In FY 2008, over 680,000 students were trained in over 43,000 classes.
- In the past three years, the number of students trained has increased by 80%.
- 80 percent of the students trained work in construction.
- Training is conducted nationwide, in other languages, and beyond the U.S. borders.
- Participation is voluntary.

Who is the training for?
- Employees
- Supervisors
- Youth
- Contractors
- Spanish-speaking individuals
- Small businesses

Courses Covered
- Construction and general industry safety and health.
- 10-hour and 30-hour courses.
- Maritime industry and disaster site.
- General awareness training for employees on primary safety and health matters at their work sites.
- The training content is flexible. Trainers follow OSHA guidelines that enable them to cater the courses to their specific audience.
- Employees are taught to recognize, control and prevent safety and health hazards.
- Employees must receive additional training on specific hazards of their job.

About the Trainers
- They are authorized trainers from all fields who have completed a one-week OSHA training course in either:
  - 500 – Construction
  - 501 – General Industry
- Trainers meet both experience and educational prerequisites:
  - Five years of safety and health experience.
  - Completion of course 510 (Construction) or 511 (General Industry) or equivalent.
  - Trainer courses are conducted by the OSHA Training Institute (OTI) and OTI Education Centers.
- Trainers are authorized to teach 10-hour or 30-hour courses in construction or general industry.

Classes Conducted
- Trainers assemble their class materials from many sources, including OSHA’s Outreach website.
- Trainers are provided a 10-hour PowerPoint CD to use.
- OSHA maintains a Spanish-language reference list to support training in Spanish.
- Trainers document their training and receive OSHA course completion cards for their students.

Training Locations
- www.OutreachTrainers.org is a free website that assists employees looking for outreach training classes.
- OSHA and its Education Centers distribute lists of active outreach trainers by state. Use these lists to contact trainers for information on training.
- Education Center outreach contact(s) - www.osha.gov/dte/outreach/construction_generalindustry/construction.pdf
- Provide the following information:
  - State(s) you are considering training.
  - Specify whether you want the trainers list for construction and/or general industry.
  - Your e-mail address, fax number or mailing address.
- Check with your OSHA state office or OSHA Consultation office.
- Search the Internet for – “10-hour Outreach,” “OSHA Outreach Training.”

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- Search the Internet for – “10-hour Outreach,” “OSHA Outreach Training.”
• On-line training. For a current list, e-mail outreach@dol.gov.
• Check with:
  • Community colleges
  • Voc-ed schools
  • Union groups, especially building trades
  • Contractor groups
  • Safety and health organizations
  • Chambers of commerce
  • Your company

Program Growth
• In the past three years, over 1.65 million students were trained.
• Many employees who took the 10-hour course are advancing to 30-hour. In the past two years, there has been a 50 percent increase in 30-hour students.
• Although OSHA has stringent guidelines, we allow online outreach training. Less than five percent of outreach students receive their completion card via on-line training. Spanish and youth outreach training are now available in this format.
• Alliance and partnership programs often include a goal of providing the 10- or 30-hour outreach training specific to their audience.

Program Benefits
• Delivers safety and health information to employees and instills the value of safety and health.
• Receive training in other languages.
• Training has flexibility, allowing specific audience needs to be met.
• The training implies a certain level of safety training and the program has become a widely known standard for OSHA orientation training.
• The completion card signifies that an employee has received training in specific core elements of safety and health.
• The program has grown from a grass roots level – based on backing from significant groups (unions, contractors, associations) and companies. The endorsement by these groups results in the training of their own employees or members, with others often following.
• OSHA recognizes the completion card as an indication of the importance of safety and health at an organization.
• Laws enacted in a number of states, including New York, Massachusetts, and Missouri require 10-hour construction training for public project work.

Additional Information
For more information on this program, contact outreach@dol.gov or the OSHA Directorate of Training and Education, 2020 South Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL 60005, (847) 297-4810 or see “Training” on OSHA’s website at www.osha.gov.